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JC907 U.S. PTO

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PTO/SB/05 (2/98)

Approved for use through 09/30/00, OMB 0651-0032  
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<b>UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL</b>		Attorney Docket No.	042390.P9464
(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))		First Inventor or Application Identifier	Louis A. Lippincott
		Title	INTERNET DOMAIN AND TIME INDEX BASED VIDEO EMAIL SYSTEM
		Express Mail Label No.	EM014066228

**APPLICATION ELEMENTS**

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents

1.  Fee Transmittal Form (e.g. PTO/SB/17)  
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)
2.  Specification Total Pages 18
- Descriptive title of the Invention
  - Cross References to Related Applications
  - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
  - Reference to Microfiche Appendix
  - Background of the Invention
  - Brief Summary of the Invention
  - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
  - Detailed Description
  - Claim(s)
  - Abstract of the Disclosure
3.  Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C.113) Total Sheets 5
4. Oath or Declaration Total Pages
- a.  Newly executed (original copy)
  - b.  Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))  
(for continuation/continuation-in-part applications see Box 15)
- I.  **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**  
Signed statement attached deleting  
Inventor(s) named in the prior application,  
see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).

\*NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 & 13: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY SMALL ENTITY FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 CFR 1.27), EXCEPT IF ONE FILED IN A PRIOR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON (37 CFR 1.28).

ADDRESS TO:  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, DC 20231

5.  Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)
6. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission  
(if applicable, all necessary)
- a.  Computer Readable Copy
  - b.  Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)
  - c.  Statement verifying identity of above copies

**ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS**

7.  Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
8.  37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement  Power of Attorney  
(when there is an assignee)
9.  English Translation Document (if applicable)
10.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO - 1449  Copies of IDS Citations
11.  Preliminary Amendment
12.  Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)  
(Should be specifically itemized)
13.  Small Entity Statement(s)  Statement filed in prior application,  
Status still proper and desired
14.  Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  
(if foreign priority is claimed)
15.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

16. If a **CONTINUING APPLICATION**, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:

Continuation  Divisional  Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Prior application Information: Examiner \_\_\_\_\_

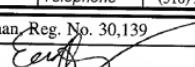
Group/Art Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

**17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label	(Insert Customer No. or Attach bare code label here)			<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below
Name	BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP			
Address	12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor			
City	Los Angeles	State	California	Zip Code
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	(310) 207-3800	Fax (310) 820-5988

Name (Print/Type) Eric S. Hyman Reg. No. 30,139

Signature 

Date 09/28/00

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**FEE TRANSMITTAL**

Patent fees are subject to annual revision on October 1.  
 These are the fees effective October 1, 1997.  
 Small Entity patent fees may be supported by a separate statement, otherwise large entity fees must be used. See Forms PTO-SB-05-12,  
 See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.28 and 1.29.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 880.00)

**Complete If Known**

Application Number			
Filing Date	09/28/00		
First Named Inventor	Louis A. Lippincott		
Examiner Name			
Group Art Unit			
Attorney Docket Number	042390.P9464		

**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)**

1.  The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any over payments to:

Deposit Account Number 02-2666

Deposit Account Name Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman LLP

Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 at the Filing of the Notice of Allowance.

2.  Payment Enclosed:

Check  Money Order  Other

**FEE CALCULATION (fees effective 10/01/96)****1. FILING FEE****Large Entity Small Entity**

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101	690	201 345 Utility filing fee	\$690
106	310	206 155 Design filing fee	
107	480	207 240 Plant filing fee	
108	690	208 345 Reissue filing fee	
114	150	214 75 Provisional filing fee	
<b>SUBTOTAL (1)</b>		<b>(\$ 690.00)</b>	

**2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES**

Total Claims	Independent Claims	Multiple Dependent	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
24	4	-	-20* = 4 X \$18.00 =	72.00	
4	1	-3** = 1 X \$78.00 =	78.00		
			=		

\*or number of previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see below

**Large Entity Small Entity**

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103	18	203 9 Claims in excess of 20
102	78	202 39 Independent claims in excess of 3
104	270	204 135 Multiple Dependent claim
109	78	209 39 **Reissue independent claims over original patent
110	18	210 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
<b>SUBTOTAL (2)</b>		<b>(\$ 150.00)</b>

**FEE CALCULATION (continued)****3. ADDITIONAL FEE**

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105	130	205 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath			
127	50	227 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet			
139	130	139 130 Non-English specification			
147	2,520	147 2,520 For filing a request for reexamination			
112	920	112 920 Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action			
113	1,840	113 1,840 Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action			
115	110	215 55 Extension for response within first month			
116	380	216 190 Extension for response within second month			
117	870	217 435 Extension for response within third month			
118	1,360	218 680 Extension for response within fourth month			
128	1,850	228 925 Extension for response within fifth month			
119	300	219 150 Notice of Appeal			
120	300	220 150 Filing a brief in support of an appeal			
121	260	221 130 Request for oral hearing			
138	1,360	138 1,360 Petition to institute a public use proceeding			
140	110	240 55 Petition to revive - unavoidably			
141	1,210	241 605 Petition to revive - unintentionally			
142	1,210	242 605 Utility issue fee (or reissue)			
143	430	243 215 Design issue fee			
144	580	244 290 Plant issue fee			
122	130	122 130 Petitions to the Commissioner			
123	50	123 50 Petitions related to provisional applications			
126	240	126 240 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt			
581	40	581 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)			
146	760	246 380 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))			
149	760	249 380 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))			
Other fee (specify) <u>Recordation of Assignment</u>					40.00
Other fee (specify) _____					

\* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

**SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 40.00)****Complete (if applicable)**

Type or Printed Name	Eric S. Hyman, Reg. No. 30,139	Reg. Number
Signature		Date 09/28/00 Deposit Account User ID 02-2666

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Docket No. 042390.P9464  
Express Mail No. EM014066228US

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

FOR

**INTERNET DOMAIN AND TIME INDEX BASED VIDEO EMAIL SYSTEM**

INVENTOR:

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09672372,092800

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION****FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

This invention relates to video on demand (VOD) systems, and more particularly to emailing indexes of VOD program content.

**5 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

With the evolution of video and other media towards video on demand (VOD), distribution of television (TV) content is changing. In one scenario, VOD systems may incorporate streaming of "library" files that contain TV programs, Karaoke files, music, etc. These files may likely be fairly large, depending on the quality of the file. A content provider will store all of the supplied content on a database. Any user wanting to view a TV broadcast needs to establish a connection between their viewing device and the provider's server. The video server sends the content, in a compressed form, to a viewing device, such as a set-top box (STB) connected to a video display device, such as a monitor or television. The STB would then decode the content and transmit the decoded content to the video display device.

The user's STB would be capable of storing part or all of a TV program in a memory. The user can select any movie or program from a selection menu, and retain complete video stream control. Making use of non-linear digital editing, or non-sequential access, the user will then be able to "slow rewind," "fast rewind," "slow forward," "fast forward," or "pause" the viewing of the program. Because of the size of the viewing program, and due to intellectual property rights of the owners of the content, saving or copying a content for later viewing by others may not be practical, and may result in violation of intellectual property laws.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

**Figure 1** illustrates an embodiment of the invention including an index memory coupled to a set-top-box (STB) processor.

**Figure 2** illustrates an index memory device of an embodiment of the invention.

**Figure 3** illustrates a graphics overlay screen for an embodiment of the invention.

**Figure 4** illustrates a system of a plurality of embodiments of the invention having an index memory coupled to a STB at different venues coupled to a video-on-demand (VOD) service provider.

**Figure 5** illustrates a graphics overlay screen of an embodiment of the invention having email capability for attaching encoded VOD segment representations.

**Figure 6** illustrates a graphics overlay screen of an embodiment of the invention having basic email functionality.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

The invention generally relates to a method and apparatus for creating audio/video command strings to eliminate the copying and transmission of large audio/video data streams. Referring to the figures, exemplary embodiments of the 5 invention will now be described. The exemplary embodiments are provided to illustrate the invention and should not be construed as limiting the scope of the invention.

**Figure 1** illustrates a system for receiving, viewing, recording, saving, sending information relating to video on demand (VOD) formatted streams. System 100 in **Figure 1** includes a set-top box (STB) processor 110, a user controller 120, communications channel 130, content index memory 140, content decoder 150, video/audio formatting module 160, and video/audio device 170. STB processor 110, may include, but is not limited to, a central processing unit (CPU), read and write memory (RAM), and read only memory (ROM) components. User controller 120 can be a infrared remote control, keyboard or computer mouse. One skilled in the art will recognize that user controller 120 may be any type of controller capable of receiving user commands, such as a voice activated controller. Communications channel 130 is the connection to a VOD service provider. Communications channel 130 could be a satellite connection, cable connection, or any other state of the art connection. Index 20 memory 140 stores VOD content indexes, such as content ID, start time of a user selected segment of a VOD decoded stream, and stop time of a user selected segment of a VOD stream. Index memory 140 can be a non volatile read and write memory (NVRAM) or any other similar state of the art memory device available. Content

decoder 150 decodes the VOD stream received from a provider in a compressed format. Video/audio formatting 160 arranges the VOD decoded stream into a stream that can be viewed and heard on video/audio device 170. Video/audio device 170 can be any device capable of being viewed and heard by a user, such as a television, stereo, or  
5 computer system.

In one embodiment, a user can select a segment of a VOD stream to record and save an encoded segment identifying indexes, such as beginning and ending of a stream that is currently or has been viewed by the user. By recording and saving only encoded indexes, very little storage space is used, and the VOD stream is not duplicated which, prevents infringing intellectual property laws. A scenario will be presented to illustrate the use of this embodiment.

Assume a first user has selected to view a VOD program. After the user selected the desired program, the stream is sent from the provider to the users STB system. The user can then view the decoded VOD program whenever she chooses. With use of non-sequential editing features, the user can pause, rewind, fast forward, or play the VOD program as desired. In this scenario, after the first user views the VOD program, the user believes that a segment of the content would be of interest to a second user. Therefore, the first user accesses the VOD program, rewinds to the desired segment, and records the segment that she believes would be of interest to the second user.

20 Assuming there are multiple segments of the VOD program that would be of interest to the second user, the first user repeats the recording for a multiplicity of segments. When the second user is available to view the recorded segments, the second user can choose any one of the recorded segments to begin viewing the content of the VOD

program. Thus, in one embodiment, because of the large amount of memory that would be required to store a complete recording of a plurality of segments, the recording of the segment only includes indexing of the segment(s).

Indexing of a segment of a VOD program is represented in a unique sequence of 5 bytes. For example, assuming a user is viewing a Cable News Network (CNN ©) VOD program on February 15, 2000. The user selects to record a segment of the VOD program at 5:10PM, and the user selects to stop recording a segment of a VOD program at 5:12PM. STB processor 110 converts the VOD program identifier (ID) for the program selection into a string of text characters, e.g., "CNN February 15 2000." The string of text characters is then converted by STB processor 110 into a unique 32-bit identifier. In another embodiment, the unique identifier is retrieved from the service provider by STB processor 110. The unique identifier along with the start and stop indexes are then stored into index memory 140. In one embodiment, the start and stop indexes are stored in 1/4 second intervals. One skilled in the art will note that other timing intervals can be used, such as 1/8 second intervals. For the above example, a 10 byte sequence of 4838A5B7 03C5A0 03C780 is stored representing a first recorded segment which, is illustrated in **Figure 2** as segment 210. The 4838A5B7 bytes represent a unique ID for CNN © February 15, 2000. The 03C5A0 bytes represents the recording start-time, 17 hours and 10 minutes (5:10 PM), and the 03C780 represents the recording stop-time, 20 17 hours and two minutes (5:12PM), in 1/4 second intervals.

Assume the user selects a second content segment of the VOD program to record. In this instance, the user selects to begin recording the same VOD program at 5:15 PM, and stops recording at 5:22PM. The same sequence takes place, and the second recorded

segment indexes are stored in index memory 140 as segment 220. In this instance, a 10 byte sequence, 4838A5B7 03CA50 03D0E0 is the representation for the second recorded segment. As before, the 4838A5B7 bytes represent a unique ID for CNN © February 15, 2000. The 03CA50 bytes represents the recording start-time, 17 hours and 15 minutes 5 (5:15 PM), and the 03CD0E0 represents the recording stop-time, 17 hours and twenty-two minutes (5:22PM), in 1/4 second intervals. Of course, the user can continue to record segments, before, after, or during the above recorded segments by rewinding, fast-rewinding, forwarding, or fast-forwarding the VOD program to a specified segment for the recordation of segment indexes. The user can optionally enter a customized identifier to be associated with the recorded segment. The customized identifier is entered by user controller 120. For example, a customized identifier can be entered as "Mary please see this CNN © piece." This identifier is displayed as illustrated in **Figure 3.**

The recorded segment representations can than be accessed by the user or an additional user(s) as long as the recorded segment representations are available in index memory 140, i.e. not deleted or erased. Assuming now that an additional user wishes to view a pre-recorded segment that is stored in index memory 140. This user selects a program to view, in this example CNN © February 15, 2000. STB 100 converts the selection to a string of text, e.g. "CNN February 15, 2000." Next, STB 100 converts the 20 string of text into a unique 32-bit identifier, or receives an identifier from the VOD service provider. STB 100 searches index memory 140 for a match to the unique identifier. In this example, the search will result in two matches, segments 210 and 220. The STB includes the two segments 210 and 220 in a user selection option list that is

displayed on the users video device 170. An example option list is illustrated in **Figure**

3. The user option list can be any appropriate graphics overlay representation of user options.

Assuming the user selects segment 220 as their program choice by using user

- 5 controller 120, STB 100 then retrieves the information contained in segment 220 from index memory 140. STB 100 converts the segment 220 to an order and sends a request to the service provider. In one embodiment, the order is represented as "CNN February 15 2000 03CA50 F0." This VOD program order represents 60 seconds (F0 in 1/4 second interval) of the segment content starting at 17 hours and 15 minutes (5:15 PM).

Assuming the VOD program is still available at the service provider, the VOD service provider delivers the requested order to STB 100, where it is decoded by content decoder 150, formatted by video/audio formatting 160, and then displayed on video/audio device 170. After part of the selected segment has been viewed by the user, such as the first 30 seconds, STB 100 places an order with the service provider for the next 60 seconds of the selected segment 220. In this embodiment, the order is represented as "CNN February 15 2000 03CB40 F0." The service provider then delivers the next 60 seconds of the selected segment 220. This repeats until all of the full seven minutes of segment 220 is displayed for the viewer.

Therefore, in as little as 10 bytes of memory storage for each recorded segment

- 20 representation, the emulation of millions of bytes worth of VOD programming content is realized. For example, with only 12K bytes of memory used in index memory 140, over a thousand pre-recorded segments can be represented, without having to make complete copies of program content.

In another embodiment, STB 100 can forward the represented segments by electronic mail (email) to another user. **Figure 4** illustrates a typical network of users having STB's and a VOD service provider. The user selects the program or pre-recorded segment, as described above, and selects email, as illustrated in **Figure 5**. STB 100 then prompts the user to enter the email address to forward the program or segment, as illustrated in **Figure 6**. The user can then access a typical email program having subject, recipients, and message entries. STB 100 then converts the program or segment into an order, as described above, and attaches the order to the email.

Assuming the recipient has a similar STB and provider service, the recipient opens the received email, and the STB processes the attachment, and stores the represented segment or program in index memory 140. Assuming the represented segment or program is available at the service provider, the recipient can select the pre-recorded segment or program, as described above, and view the content.

Therefore, the sender has not copied the VOD content when attaching to an email. This embodiment can be useful for educational purposes as well. Teachers, professors, employers, friends and family members can send and receive VOD represented segments and programs that are of interest. And, the recipient and sender do not have to copy an entire segment or program. Thus, avoiding intellectual property infringements and reducing the memory size necessary for storage of segments and programs.

The above embodiments can also be stored on a device or medium and read by a machine to perform instructions. The device or medium may include a solid state memory device and/or a rotating magnetic or optical disk. The device or medium may

be distributed when partitions of instructions have been separated into different machines, such as across an interconnection of computers.

While certain exemplary embodiments have been described and shown in the accompanying drawings, it is to be understood that such embodiments are merely illustrative of and not restrictive on the broad invention, and that this invention not be limited to the specific constructions and arrangements shown and described, since various other modifications may occur to those ordinarily skilled in the art.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1        1. A apparatus comprising:

2                a first processor coupled to a communications channel device, the  
3        communications device capable of receiving and transmitting information to a video-  
4        on-demand (VOD) service provider;

5                a VOD content decoder coupled to the first processor;

6                a video and audio formatting processor coupled to the first processor and  
the content decoder; and

7                an index memory coupled to the first processor,

8                wherein the index memory stores a plurality of VOD program segment  
representations of one of whole VOD program content and partial VOD program  
content.

1        2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first processor receives information  
2        from a user controller.

1        3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the user controller is one of an infrared  
2        remote controller, a keyboard, a computer mouse and a voice activated controller.

1        4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of VOD program segment  
2        representations comprises a content identification, a content segment start time, and a  
3        content segment stop time.

1        5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the content identification is one of  
2 received from a VOD service provider and selected by a user.

1        6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the content segment start time and the  
2 content segment stop time are selected by a user.

1        7. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein one of the plurality of program segment  
2 representations requires 1 to 10 bytes of memory.

1        8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the index memory is a non-volatile  
read and write memory (NVRAM).

9. A system comprising:

a video-on-demand (VOD) service provider coupled to a plurality of set-top-box (STB) units, wherein each of the plurality of STB units comprises

5        a first processor coupled to a communications channel device, the  
communications device capable of receiving and transmitting information to a VOD  
6 service provider;

7        a VOD content decoder coupled to the first processor;

8        a video and audio formatting processor coupled to the first  
9 processor and the content decoder; and

10        an index memory coupled to the first processor,

11       wherein the index memory stores a plurality of VOD program segment  
12 representations of one of whole VOD program content and partial VOD program  
13 content and each of the plurality of STB units are capable of communicating with each  
14 other.

1       10.      The system of claim 9, wherein the processor receives information from a  
2 user controller, the VOD service provider, and other processors located at different  
3 venues.

1       11.      The system of claim 10, wherein the user controller is one of an infrared  
2 remote controller, a keyboard, a computer mouse, and voice activated controller.

1       12.      The system of claim 9, wherein the plurality of VOD program segment  
representations comprises a content identification, a content segment start time, and a  
content segment stop time.

1       13.      The system of claim 12, wherein the content identification is one of  
received from a VOD service provider and selected by a user.

1       14.      The system of claim 12, wherein one of the plurality of program segment  
2 representations requires 1 to 10 bytes of memory.

1       15.      The system of claim 9, wherein the index memory is a non-volatile read  
2 and write memory (NVRAM).

1        16. The system of claim 9, wherein a user can send a VOD program segment  
2           representation as an electronic mail (email) attachment to another set-top-box  
3           unit located at a different venue.

1        17. A method comprising:

2           ordering at least one video-on-demand (VOD) program from a VOD  
3           service provider from a first set-top-box (STB) unit;

4           playing at least one VOD program;

5           selecting a start and stop time for recording a representation of a segment  
6           of the at least one VOD program;

7           converting a VOD program identifier of the at least one VOD program to a  
8           text representation;

9           one of converting the text representation of the VOD program identifier of  
10          the at least one VOD program into a unique encoded digital representation and  
11          receiving a unique encoded digital representation from the VOD service provider;

12          converting the start and stop time for a segment of the at least one VOD program  
13          to a digital representation; and

14                   storing the VOD program identifier encoded digital representation and the  
15                   start and stop digital representation in an index memory.

1                 18. The method of claim 17, further comprising converting the stored VOD  
2                   program identifier encoded digital representation and the start and stop digital  
3                   representation of the segment of the at least one VOD program to a graphics  
4                   representation, wherein a user can select the graphics representation to order the  
5                   segment of the at least one VOD program.

1                 19. The method of claim 18, further comprising  
2                   attaching the stored VOD program identifier encoded digital  
3                   representation and the start and stop digital representation in an electronic mail  
4                   (email), and  
5                   sending the email to a user located at a different venue.

1                 20. The method of claim 19, further comprising,  
2                   receiving the email, storing the attached video-on-demand (VOD)  
3                   program identifier encoded digital representation and the start and stop digital  
4                   representation in a second set-top-box (STB) unit,  
5                   converting the VOD program identifier encoded digital representation and  
6                   the start and stop digital representation to a graphics representation,

7           selecting the graphics representation of the VOD program identifier  
8     encoded digital representation and the start and stop digital representation to order the  
9     segment of the at least one VOD program,

10           receiving the VOD program segment on the second STB unit,

11           decoding the VOD program segment, and

12           formatting the VOD program segment so a user can play the VOD  
13     program segment.

21.   A program storage device readable by a machine comprising instructions  
that cause the machine to:

             order at least one video-on-demand (VOD) program from a VOD service  
provider from a first set-top-box (STB) unit;

             convert a VOD program identifier of the at least one VOD program to a  
text representation;

7           one of convert the text representation of the VOD program identifier of  
8     the at least one VOD program into a unique encoded digital representation and receive  
9     a unique encoded digital representation from the VOD service provider;

10           convert a start and stop time for a segment of the at least one VOD  
11     program to a digital representation; and

12           store the VOD program identifier encoded digital representation and the  
13     start and stop digital representation in an index memory.

1        22. The program storage device of claim 21, wherein the instructions further  
2 cause the machine to convert the stored VOD program identifier encoded digital  
3 representation and the start and stop digital representation of the segment of the at least  
4 one VOD program to a graphics representation, wherein a user can select the graphics  
5 representation to order the segment of the at least one VOD program.

1        23. The program storage device of claim 21, wherein the instructions further  
2 cause the machine to

3              attach the stored VOD program identifier encoded digital representation and the  
4 start and stop digital representation in an electronic mail (email), and  
send the email to a user located at a different venue.

24. The program storage device of claim 23, wherein the instructions further  
cause the machine to

receive the email, store the attached VOD program identifier encoded  
digital representation and the start and stop digital representation in a second set-top-  
box (STB) unit,

6              convert the VOD program identifier encoded digital representation and  
7 the start and stop digital representation to a graphics representation,

8              receive the VOD program segment on the second STB unit,

9              decode the VOD program segment, and

10               format the VOD program segment so a user can play the VOD program  
11   segment.

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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A device is provided that includes a first processor connected to a communications channel device. The communications device is capable of receiving and transmitting information to a video-on-demand (VOD) service provider. A VOD content decoder is provided that is connected to the first processor. A video and audio formatting processor is provided that is connected to the first processor and the content decoder. An index memory is provided that is connected to the first processor. The index memory stores a plurality of VOD program segment representations of either whole VOD program content or partial VOD program content. Also provided is a method that includes selecting a start and stop time for recording a representation of a segment of at least one VOD program. The method also includes converting a VOD program identifier of at least one VOD program to a text representation. Also, either converting the text representation of the VOD program identifier of at least one VOD program into a unique encoded digital representation or receiving a unique encoded digital representation from the VOD service provider. Converting the start and stop time for a segment of at least one VOD program to a digital representation. And storing the VOD program identifier encoded digital representation and the start and stop digital representation in an index memory.

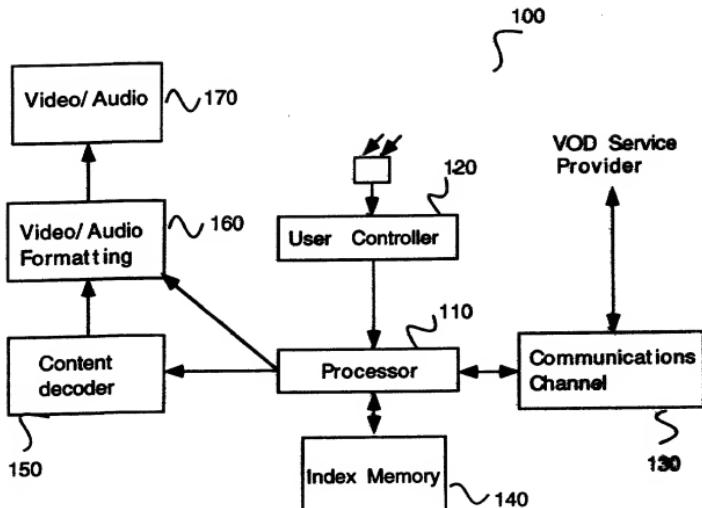


Figure 1.

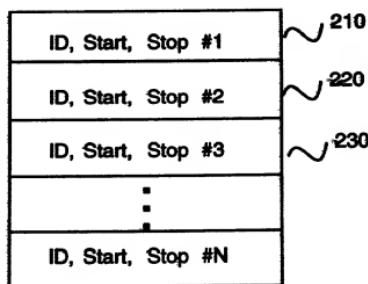


Figure 2.

Selection	List	TIME	Selection	Displayed
	Program 1			
	Program 2			
	.			
	Program N			
	Pre-recorded Segment 1			
	Pre-recorded Segment 2 (Mary please see this CNN © piece)			
	.			
	Pre-recorded Segment N			

FIGURE 3.

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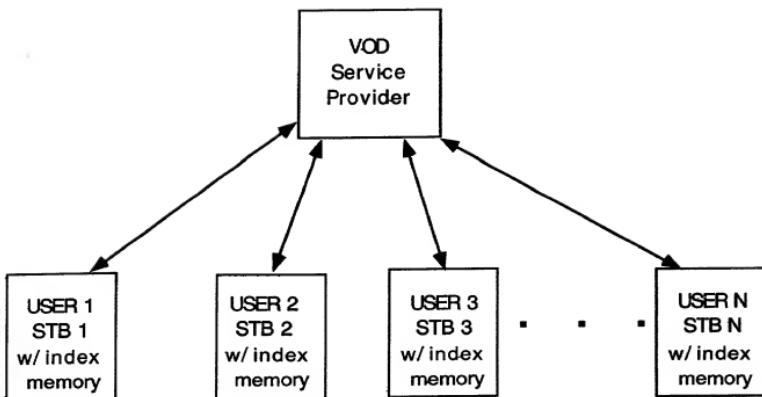


FIGURE 4

<u>Selection</u>	<u>List</u>	<u>TIME</u>	
		<u>Selection</u>	<u>Displayed</u>
	Program 1		
	Program 2		
	.		
	Program N		
	Pre-recorded Segment 1		
	Pre-recorded Segment 2		
	.		
	Pre-recorded Segment N		
			EMAIL

FIGURE 5.

<u>Selection List</u>	TIME Selection Displayed
Program 1	
Program 2	
.	
.	
Program N	
Pre-recorded Segment 1	
Pre-recorded Segment 2	
.	
Pre-recorded Segment N	Address Book
Enter email address: _____	Subject
Attachments	Message
SEND	CANCEL

FIGURE 6.

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**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION  
(FOR INTEL CORPORATION PATENT APPLICATIONS)**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

**INTERNET DOMAIN AND TIME INDEX BASED VIDEO EMAIL SYSTEM**

the specification of which



is attached hereto.

was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as

United States Application Number \_\_\_\_\_

or PCT International Application Number \_\_\_\_\_

and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment referred to above. I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application, that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application, and that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months (for a utility patent application) or six months (for a design patent application) prior to this application.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d), of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**Prior Foreign Application(s):**

APPLICATION NUMBER	COUNTRY (OR INDICATE IF PCT)	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED
			<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	STATUS (ISSUED, PENDING, ABANDONED)

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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